

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01067 191729Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05
/140 W

-----061195 200658Z /14

R 191717Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4976
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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EEC, IAEA, OECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, GW
SUBJECT: WORLD NATURAL URANIUM MARKET

REF: STATE 7629 (NOTAL)

1. IN GENERAL, UTILITIES OPERATING GERMAN NUCLEAR
REACTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING THEIR OWN
URANIUM SUPPLIES. THIS IS DONE THROUGH (A) DIRECT
PURCHASE (E.G. FROM SOUTH AFRICA), (B) VIA GERMAN
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URANIUM COMPANIES, SUCH AS URANERZBERGBAU BONN AND
URANGESELLSCHAFT FRANKFURT (E.G. CANADIAN URANIUM);
(C) PURCHASE OF ENRICHED URANIUM (ENRICHMENT
SERVICES, E.G. U.S.A.).

2. COUNTRIES FROM WHICH FRG COMPANIES ARE PURCHASING
URANIUM IN THE 1977-80 PERIOD ARE: SOUTH AFRICA

4200 TONS (46.7 PER CENT), CANADA 2200 TONS (24.4 PER CENT), FRANCE, GABON, AND NIGER 1500 TONS (16.7 PER CENT), U.S. 600 TONS (6.7 PERCENT), OTHER COUNTRIES 500 TONS (5.5 PER CENT).

3. AS A RULE PREFERENCE IS GIVEN TO LONG-TERM PURCHASING CONTRACTS. SHORT-TERM PURCHASES ARE CONSIDERED WHERE DEFICIENCIES IN DELIVERY OCCUR OR WHERE A GENERAL SHORTAGE DOES EXIST.

4. THE GENERAL DELIVERY TIME OF TWO YEARS IN ADVANCE PERMITS SUFFICIENT PREPARATORY TIME FOR REACTOR USE (CONVERSION, ENRICHMENT, FUEL ELEMENT PRODUCTION). THUS, AN INTERRUPTION OF URANIUM DELIVERIES WOULD ENABLE FRG REACTORS TO CONTINUE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD.

5. SPECIAL STOCKPILE RESERVES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FRG FROM THE GERMAN-AMERICAN OFFSET PURCHASE, ON THE BASIS OF WHICH THE FRG MAINTAINS SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM SUFFICIENT TO OPERATE 12 GW FOR ONE YEAR.

6. DUE TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF REACTOR CONSTRUCTION, FRG ENERGY SUPPLIERS HAVE ACCUMULATED URANIUM STOCKPILES WHICH ARE ESTIMATED TO BE AROUND 200 TONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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